

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph:

[0026] The *Salinospora* group was initially recognized after phylogenetic characterization of sediment-derived actinomycetes isolated during an expedition to the Bahamas. Partial 16S rDNA gene sequences from eight morphologically diverse strains indicated the presence of four signature nucleotides between positions 198 to 1424 of SEQ ID NOs: 3, 4 and 5, or nucleotide positions 207-468 (based on the *E. coli* 16S rRNA numbering system which is well known to those skilled in the art; see also Table 3 which utilizes the *E. coli* 16S rRNA numbering system in comparing the *Salinospora* actinomycetes of the present invention to those of other *Micromonosporaceae* genera). These signatures nucleotides have subsequently been found in all 45 partially sequenced *Salinospora* strains. Two strains showing the highest phylogenetic diversity (CNH643 and CNH646) were sequenced nearly in their entirety (GenBank accession numbers AY040619 (SEQ ID NO:3) and AY040620 (SEQ ID NO:4), respectively) and found to possess one additional signature nucleotide (position 1456) that is also characteristic of this group (Table 3). Phylogenetic analyses of aligned sequences from these strains indicate that they form a distinct and coherent clade within the *Micromonosporaceae* (Figure 2). Signature nucleotides unify this clade and a high bootstrap value supports clear separation from the nine currently described genera within the family.

In re Application of:  
Fenical et al.  
Application No.: 09/991,518  
Filed: November 16, 2001  
Page 3

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: UCSD1630-1

Please replace Table 3 with the following amended Table 3:

<u>Relative Nucleotide</u> Position of <i>E.coli</i> 16S rRNA	All Other <i>Micromonosporaceae</i> Genera	<i>Salinospora</i> <u>Isolates</u>	<u>Nucleotide Positions</u> of SEQ ID NOs: 3*, 4, and 5
207	(U/C)	A	<u>198</u>
366	(A/G)	C	<u>351</u>
467	(A/G)	U	<u>442 or 443*</u>
468	A	U	<u>443 or 444*</u>
1456	A	G	<u>1423 or 1424*</u>